

FILTER PLANT FOR RICHMOND.

Dr. Hunter Tells of Its Cost and Many Benefits.

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY.

The Lecturer Gives Practical Views About the Hygienic Advantages of Good, Wholesome, Clean Water.

Dr. Rufus Hunter, professor of chemistry in Richmond College, delivered in the college chapel the last of a series of lectures by the professors of that institution for this session last night.

A large audience greeted the speaker, who took as his subject of discussion a question which has long been of interest to Richmond people—our drinking water supply.

Professor Hunter called attention to some of the evidences of extensive pollution of the water supplies among the ancients. The Egyptians had a system of filtration by which the natural deficiency of water in the Nile valley was supplied, so that twenty million people found sustenance.

Dr. Hunter said that in New Mexico and Arizona existing remains of irrigation works point to the fact of some prehistoric people in those arid plains.

After calling attention to the fact that about one-third of all rain that falls flows quickly back to the sea, and that the third is evaporated, and that our water supply, whether from wells or springs or streams, comes from the remaining third of the rain fall, he turned to some of the evidences bearing on the relation of drinking water to disease.

From the results of people drinking artesian well water in Emporia, Va., who had seemed exempt from the yellow fever, and those of the Pensacola, Fla., Navy Yard, where material diseases ceased when good water replaced driven wells, it appears that even these diseases may be contracted by drinking water.

The terrible experience of Genoa, Italy, in 1834, with cholera, then epidemic in Europe, was shown to be due to miners with the epidemic, washing their clothes in the water, and the water being drunk by the city.

In 1892 cholera became epidemic in Hamburg, which was then taking its water supply from the Elbe. In this case, a part of the city sewage was dumped above the water-take. A storm, coming from Hamburg by an imaginary line, had but few cases of cholera.

A CASE OF EPIDEMIC. The new cholera epidemic of Plymouth, Penn., a town of 8,000 people, was cited. There were over 100 cases of typhoid fever in 1885, and more than one hundred deaths, resulting in an actual cost in cash to the city amounting to \$11,000.

The items included being lost wages of those who recovered, nearly earnings of those who died, and the care of the sick. This costly epidemic has been traced to a single patient who was cured for fear the source of the cholera was breaking the city with water.

The existence of typhoid fever in the country, especially in the mountainous section of Virginia, was discussed, and explanations offered as to the causes producing it. In the mind of the lecturer, the idea in locating wells generally is convenience. He showed how convenient or refuse heads tend their aid in polluting water, often at great distances, where the well formation is favorable. A case of a well containing water at a distance of 200 yards had come under the professor's observation while he was teaching in Wisconsin. When wells are located sufficiently far from lots or cesspools, after carelessness to the extent of the distance of 200 yards, the water is allowed immediately under the well. The same causes may pollute a good spring's water.

Special emphasis was given the fact that bright, clear, sparkling water is not always safe drinking water.

WELLS AND SPRINGS. Why are wells and springs in towns and cities regarded with suspicion, especially where sewer systems are in use? The water from the streets and back-ways furnish refuse matter; sewer pipes are constantly leaking, and in Richmond these sewers are laid in the water-bearing gravel, which rests on the granite bed rock. Gas pipes are constantly leaking. The unwholesome odor, whenever the streets are torn up, attests the unsanitary character of soil-filtered water for drinking purposes.

The natural purifying agents, operating on polluted water are nitrifying bacteria, sedimentation of stream water, oxidation, the sun's rays, and freezing, as is generally supposed, improve the water. The professor's experiments, however, found in water before freezing innumerable bacteria per c. c. ice frozen 11 days, 1,014,413 bacteria per c. c.; ice frozen 27 days, 285,437; ice frozen 69 days, 24,526; ice frozen 77 days, 72,501; ice frozen 161 days, 1,236.

typhoid fever bacillus was used in these experiments.

But the natural agents do not entirely remove organic contamination, which furnishes the food needed for disease germs. Its accomplishment is, therefore, chiefly in removing the food. The first attempt of this kind was made in England in 1859.

SYSTEMS OF FILTRATION. The two systems of filtration used most largely, the English filter-bed and the American or mechanical system are described. The essential difference is the rate of filtration, and that the English bed depends upon the layers of bacteria formed in the upper layers of sand to remove the bacteria from the water, while the American introduces some coagulant, usually aluminum sulphate. Results were given showing that the efficiency of the two systems is quite high, and about the same. In the best filters in use to-day over 99 per cent. of all bacteria are removed, and the filtered water contains less total solids than the raw water.

As to the effect on typhoid death rates, where filters have been introduced, Lawrence, Mass., had its death rate reduced 40 per cent.; Munich, Germany, a reduction of 90 per cent.; while Hamburg suffered so terribly from cholera in 1892, Atlanta, right by its side, had only a few cases. Hamburg drank at that time unfiltered Elbe water; Atlanta drank filtered Elbe water, which was taken from the river eight miles below, where all the sewage from 80,000 people was dumped into the river. Many other American cities have had marked decrease in number of typhoid fever cases and deaths after introduction of filters.

RICHMOND WATER. In Richmond about four-fifths of the people drink the city water, the other one-fifth from wells and springs. This fact itself is a source of constant danger, for these wells and springs are far more liable to contamination than the city water.

Many people will not drink the river water when so muddy. All arguments fail to remove this prejudice. Clear water taken from city wells and sold around the city last summer while the city water was so muddy.

A good drinking water should be free from sewerage contamination, odor, taste, and sediment as well as disease-producing germs. Judged by this standard, there are many days each year when our water would startle and offend our water contain over 700 parts

Paine's Celery Compound

is the
Best Spring Medicine In The World.

It makes the weak strong. We sell and recommend it.

TRAGLE MEDICINE CO.
811 East Broad Street.

per million of total solids, while river water are looked on suspiciously if they have more than 20 parts per million.

Then, too, there is an aesthetic side to the water question. None of us relish a bath in muddy water quite as much as in clear sparkling water. We come from the former with a feeling of dirt all lingering within us; while from the latter we feel as neat and tidy as the far-famed new pin. The reputation of our water has long been a source of interest to the minds of visitors far from a pleasing effect.

FILTER PLANTS' COST. From a liberal estimate a good filter plant will cost complete, \$150,000 annual running expenses, including engineers, laborers, consultant for mechanical plant and interest at 4 per cent. on cost of plant will be about \$20,000. This means that each of the 80,000 water consumers would have to pay an additional water tax of the sum of 25 cents per year. The result? Clear water, a feeling of self-respect and pride and doubtless fewer cases of typhoid fever each year.

Richmond is taxed annually by typhoid fever at the very lowest estimate based on the health board's report for the last ten years, \$12,500.

Why not check this annual drain? This alone would, if applied to that purpose, provide us with an excellent filtering plant. As a city, can we not better afford to defer for a few years some paved streets in order to have a water which may not be the subject of ridicule and laughter of people abroad? For one we are firmly of opinion we can.

MEETING OF S. A. R.

They Adopt a Memorial to Four Com patriots.

At the last meeting of the Sons of the American Revolution the president being absent from indisposition, Prof. McGuire, Vice-president, presided. Dr. R. A. Brock presented in behalf of a committee composed of Mr. Henry Starnes and himself, a memorial to four deceased patriots, which was unanimously adopted.

The four are the eminent jurist and statesman Judge Walter R. Staples; the successful educator and man of business, George W. Campbell; S. A. R. and Edward D. Christian, an enterprising citizen and one of the heroic boys of the V. M. I. at New Market, May 15, 1864.

Mr. W. Mac Jones, in behalf of a committee consisting of Messrs. Starnes, Brock, Minor, R. A. Brock and himself, presented a plan for making the Society more efficient, useful and interesting. It was duly considered by sections, and with some amendments, adopted.

It provides for several standing committees, who are to arrange for papers on history and genealogy at the monthly meetings; for an annual celebration of some important event in American history, and also a social entertainment; to sponsor the formation of local chapters in various places in the State, and to stir up as many as possible of those whose ancestral revolutionary record entitles them to become S. A. R.'s, whilst it invokes the earnest efforts of all who are connected with the Society to give it more life and patriotic spirit.

Mr. C. E. Fairbanks, formerly of Atlanta, but now of Richmond, was elected a member of the Virginia Society.

Delegates and alternates had been appointed to the National Congress, which is to meet in Detroit, Mich., May 1st and 2nd, and it is expected that the Society will be represented there.

Gaeleul Movement. One of the rooms in the new dormitory building to be erected at Richmond College is to be named for Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Dunaway.

This will be brought about by the fact that the Baptist church in Fredericksburg, of which Dr. Dunaway was former pastor, anxious to honor him, will give \$500 to pay for the room.

Dr. Dunaway is one of the trustees of the college, this action on the part of his former congregation, is most grateful. The new pastor of the Fredericksburg church, Dr. Dill, is leading the movement.

The Children's Chorus. The Wednesday Club Children's Chorus will hold its final meeting for the season to-morrow, at the Y. M. C. A. Hall at 12 o'clock. All children who have not made settlement for tickets or returned the unused tickets, are requested to do so at this meeting.

As matters of importance to the chorus will be brought up at this meeting, a large attendance is requested.

Pucky Wife. There was much excitement in the neighborhood of Twenty-third and N streets Wednesday night about 10 o'clock. A man entered the back yard at Mr. J. W. Anderson's residence and made an effort to break into the house. Mr. Anderson was absent, but his pucky wife grabbed his pistol and fired at the man, who fled from the premises.

This shot aroused a large crowd of people, who searched for the man, but they could not find him.

Funeral of Dr. Charters. The remains of Dr. Charles L. Charters were brought to Richmond on the Chesapeake and Ohio train yesterday and were interred in Hollywood. The following met the remains at the depot and acted as pall-bearers: Messrs. Irving L. Beveridge, R. C. Carter, O. Raymond Brown, John Wilson, R. A. Carter, Chas. W. Thompson, James K. Annots and William H. Beveridge, Jr.

The Sons of Veterans. R. E. Lee Camp, Sons of Veterans, will have a big time next Monday night. Captain M. W. Hazlewood will read a paper and the veterans of Lee and Pickett Camps will attend.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson

Dr. J. C. Watson

Dr. J. C. Watson

Dr. J. C. Watson

Dr. J. C. Watson

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HANDSOME YOUTH A HOUSEBREAKER.

G. C. Hunter Entered a Flat and Stole Ladies' Jewelry.

FOUGHT IN THE NAVY IN CUBA.

Rows are Every Day Occurrences In Seventeenth Street and Do Not Arouse the Curiosity of the Residents—Family Rows.

A case which excited marked pity, and threw a dark shadow over the gay faces which attend the court crimes daily, was that of G. C. Hunter, a handsome youth, who stands charged with housebreaking and larceny. He told an officer that he did not know why he committed the crime unless he was crazy. And so it seemed to those who looked at his handsome, shaven-headed face.

He came to this city from a distant State some months ago, and has lived with his mother, a refined lady, on Grace street.

THE ROBBERY. Monday morning Miss Rachel Clarke, who occupies rooms with her sister at 719 east Grace street, left home and locked the door.

A porter was sent from the store, where she was employed, to carry a chair to her room, and was given the key to get in. On his return he reported that the door was open.

The young ladies next day missed a lot of finger rings and two out-goes, including a watch. A search was instituted by Detectives Tompkins and Gibson, and nearly all the articles were recovered from pawn shops. Hunter was the man who pawned them.

VALUED SAVED HIM. The value of the articles was not enough to make the charge grand larceny, but the door was opened and a locked trunk gone into, and the charge above named was preferred, and he was sent out to the grand jury.

His mother was in Justice Crutchfield's private office, and was greatly overcome at her son's crime and shame.

The young man hung his head during the trial, and looked the picture of pain and despair. After finding that he was suspected of the crime, he had been visited by the dealers. If detectives visited them not to tell that he had been there, as it would get him in trouble. These and other circumstances confirmed his guilt.

It is stated that young Hunter was in the navy during the Spanish war, and fought with the cruiser Cincinnati.

CAUSE CELEBRE. The cause celebre of Gaines vs. Jefferson was continued yesterday, and Rosa Gaines, of the nimble tongue, who defended the well-known actress, including the "Fairies" Dance, in which a number of society children will appear under the direction of Miss Mary Thaw, the popular teacher.

The Old Dominion Society, which has not been heard of in Richmond for some time, will play at the night concert, and Miss Nancy Brooks, the English actress, who staged the "Midsummer Night's Dream," and Mr. Evan R. Chesterman, the "Tide Reporter," will both be included in the programme for the afternoon.

The former appearing with Mr. Henry K. Terry in the scene from "School for Scandal," and the latter giving one of his inimitable monologues.

The other attractions will be a large ladies' mandolin club, the artists' association, Miss Jennie Gordon, of Atlanta, Ga., a very efficient elocutionist, a quartette of ladies and a plastic march under the direction of Mr. Frank Cosby, which will be something in the nature of a transformation scene at the close of the performance.

The minstrel first part, which is to be one of the bright particular features of the entertainment, has been designed to illustrate the old and the new schools in popular song. The latter school is among the most prominent vocalists in the city, will sing some of the old-time favorites, which, though they are ever old, are still ever new, while the end men will sing some of the very latest songs that have been published.

Mr. Charles Peterson, the veteran actor, will be the interlude, and he, together with the ballad singers and the chorus, will appear in full dress suits and with powdered hair. There will be bright black-faced comedians, who will appear in costume as the end men of the combination.

The minstrel first part will be followed by an olio of four capital specialties.

WAS MUSTERED OUT. Sergeant J. Enders Robinson Received Two Honorable Discharges.

Sergeant J. Enders Robinson, for two years past quartermaster Company B, Blues Company, 1st Iowa Regiment, has been mustered out of service, and will not re-enlist. He received two honorable discharges—one from the War Department and one from his regiment.

After treatment here for chronic malaria, Mr. Robinson started for Cuba, where he received orders to remain in this country, as "all men on furlough and in hospitals were being discharged, because their services were no longer required by the Government."

He remained on duty in Savannah six weeks, awaiting his final statement and pay. His pay check was lost in the mails over two weeks. Both were recovered by tracers.

On the day of his arrival here, Mr. Robinson was offered a position with a private engineering corps, which he accepted. He at once applied for his "muster-out" at the recruiting office here, and left immediately for West Virginia, where he has been at work a month.

Richmond's Representation. Sir, You have given in your editorial columns no uncertain sound about the May convention, but you make no practical suggestions looking to an adequate representation from Richmond.

It seems to me that Richmond should send at least one hundred representatives to this conference or convention. I am satisfied that a great majority of the voters of this city are in favor of the election of Senators by the people, and until that can be accomplished by constitutional amendment, they undoubtedly favor the election by the people of the House.

I suggest, therefore, that you advocate holding meetings at some prominent point in each of the five Democratic wards of the city, at each of which meetings twenty representative men shall be chosen to attend the convention.

This convention is too near at hand for details to be perfected otherwise than by such suggestions as The Times may make. It would never do for so important a conference to be held in our city without the presence of some chosen representatives of our citizens.

Will you not help to bring this about? JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRAT. Richmond, Va., April 27, 1899.

Bankrupt Case. A petition in bankruptcy was filed in the clerk's office of the United States District Court yesterday by Philip Marks, a clothing merchant.

Liabilities, \$7,120, mainly house rent and goods bought. His assets are \$1,845.50.

Night School of Technology. The Virginia Mechanics Institute has issued invitations to the closing exercises of its Night School of Technology, to be held at the Young Men's Christian As-

sociation on the night of May 16th, at 8:30 o'clock.

The programme includes an address by Rev. Dr. Edward N. Calisch, and the distribution of prizes and diplomas by Colonel C. P. E. Burgwyn, the principal.

MAYOR HARRISON'S BROTHER.

He Pays His Respects to the Governor.

Other Capitol News.

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The Governor stated that he was not quite ready to issue orders disbanding the militia and proceeding for the reorganization. He is waiting until the Attorney General who is to report as to certain legal questions that have arisen. It is thought there will not be more than two regiments provided for under the new plan.

The Governor has not heard from any of the out-of-town members of his staff with reference to the proposed trip to Washington on the occasion of the peace jubilee.

A letter has been received by the Governor from Charlotte telling him of the mysterious disappearance of London P. Garnett, of that county. He left Randolph county, W. Va., last December on horseback, and was last heard of at Staunton on December 10th. He has some money and his friends fear he has been murdered.

Attorney General Montague has given the following opinion concerning the method of holding county elections: "In the counties and corporations where no political party nominates candidates for county or corporation officers, the provisions of the Walton-Parker law, as respects notice, official ballot, booth, &c., do not apply; but in such case the elector shall provide his own ballot and the count shall be practically conducted under the old McCormick law." Section 29 of the Walton-Parker law, as amended by act approved March 3, 1898, will show the ground upon which this opinion is based.

THE POLICE BENEFIT. Miss Gay Ragland's Splendid Voice to Be Heard—Other Attractions.

The two performances to be given at the Academy of Music on May 24 under the auspices of the Police Benevolent Association will be particularly interesting from the fact that Miss Gay Ragland is to make her first appearance here since her return from New York. The announcement that she has consented to sing has created a good deal of interest, as her achievements, which have been recognized by the Northern press, make her one of the best vocalists in the musical world of this city. She possesses a most magnificent voice.

Miss Annie Reinhardt, the well-known violinist, will play at both entertainments, and there will be bright comedians, including the "Fairies" Dance, in which a number of society children will appear under the direction of Miss Mary Thaw, the popular teacher.

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HOLIDAY FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

They Will Stop Work at 2 o'Clock on Saturdays.

MORE ABOUT ELECTROLYSIS.

It is Thought to Be Doing Considerable Damage to Water Pipes—Other Committee Meetings Last Night.

There were a number of committee meetings last night, and considerable work of more or less importance was transacted.

The Committee on Health met at 7:30 o'clock. The Committee on Repairs to the Crematory submitted estimates for new brick work, and recommended that a contract be awarded. A contract was